

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments

Page 1 has been amended to insert a reference to the patent now issued on the parent Serial No. 10/117,686. Claim 10 has been amended to make it dependent on claim 7, rather than claim 2.

The Election Requirement

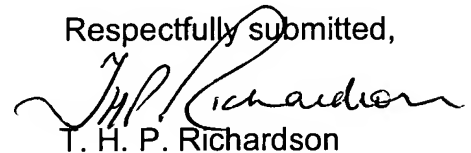
In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants elect the species of Group 8 (Figures 44-46). Claim 7 is readable on this species. The Examiner is asked to reconsider his statement that the embodiments of the invention shown in Figure 50, and Figures 51- 52, represent species which are patentably distinct from Figures 44-46 and from each other. Thus, Figures 44-46 show a pedestal of the invention in which the pedestal base is made up of two spaced-apart wall members; Figure 50 shows a pedestal of the invention in which the pedestal base is made up of two separably interlocking wall members; and Figures 51 and 52 are side views of the separably interlocking pedestal base members which are assembled to provide the pedestal base of the pedestal shown in Figure 50. Furthermore, the pedestals shown in Figures 44-46 and 50 fall within the scope of claim 7.

It is noted that claim 1 is indeed a generic claim, encompassing all the different species identified by the Examiner.

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If, however, there are any outstanding issues that could usefully be discussed by telephone, the Examiner is asked to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


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